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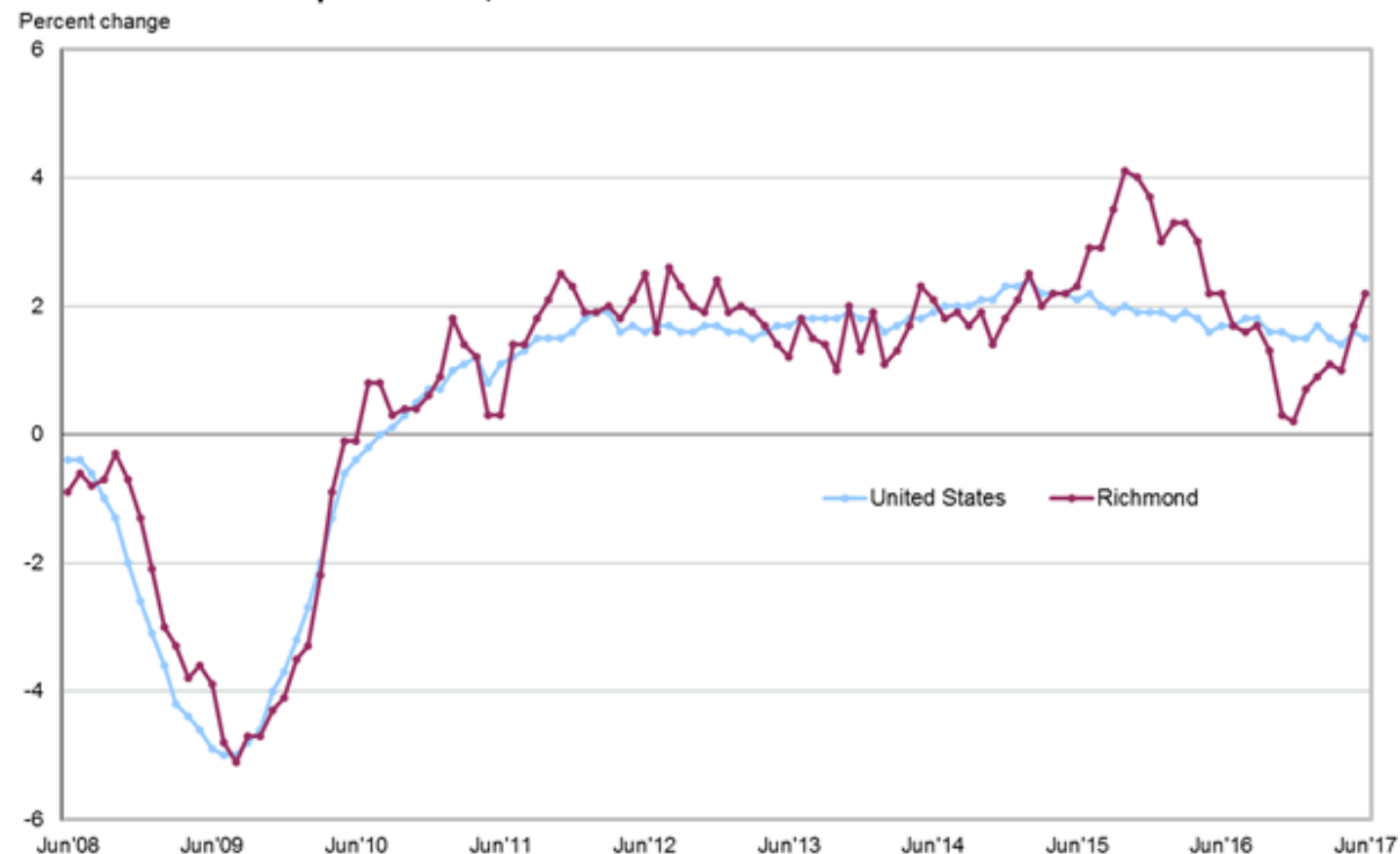
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Richmond Area Employment — June 2017

Local Rate of Employment Growth Above National Average

Total nonfarm employment for the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 682,300 in June 2017, up 14,600, or 2.2 percent, over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, the national job count increased 1.5 percent. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that the June increase marked seven full years of consecutive over-the-year employment gains in the Richmond metropolitan area. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#). The Technical Note at the end of this release contains the metropolitan area definition. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

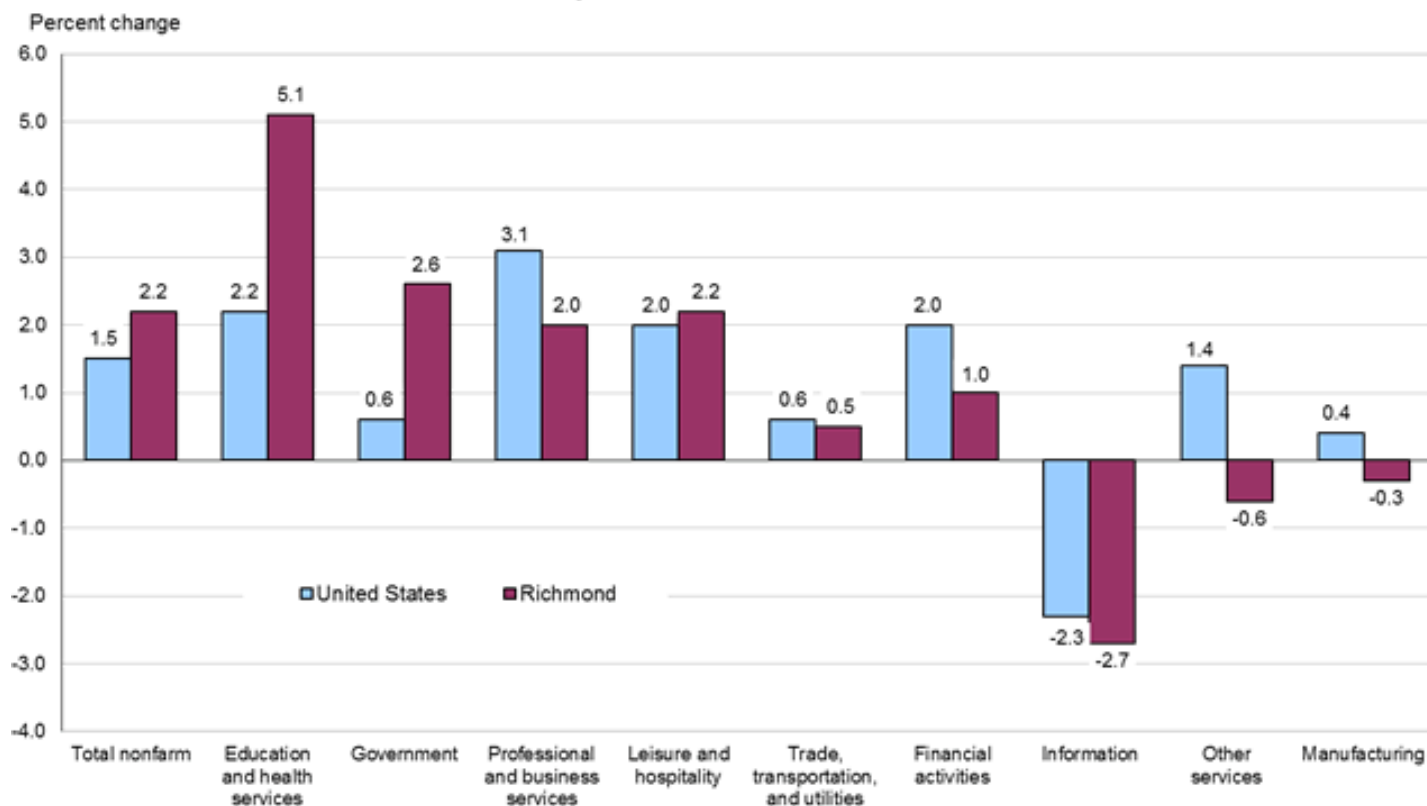
Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the United States and Richmond metropolitan area, June 2008–June 2017



In the greater Richmond metropolitan area, education and health services had the largest employment gain from June 2016 to June 2017, adding 4,900 jobs. The recent advance represented a 5.1-percent rate of job growth over the year in the local area, more than double the nationwide advance of 2.2 percent for this industry.

Three other supersectors in the Richmond area gained over 2,000 jobs: government; mining, logging, and construction; and professional and business services. Government added 2,900 jobs, while mining, logging, and construction gained 2,400 jobs over the year. Professional and business services gained 2,300 jobs since June 2016. The local 2.6-percent rate of job growth in government was more than four times the national 0.6-percent gain for this supersector; the 2.0-percent advance locally in professional and business services employment was lower than the 3.1-percent gain nationally. (See [chart 2](#).)

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in employment by selected industry supersector, United States and the Richmond metropolitan area, June 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Leisure and hospitality was the only other supersector in the Richmond area to gain more than 1,000 jobs, adding 1,500 since June 2016. This local industry's 2.2 percent growth rate was similar to the nation's 2.0 percent rate.

Metropolitan area employment data for July 2017 are scheduled to be released on Friday, August 18, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor between State employment security agencies and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 39 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates. The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the supersector level are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Additional information























More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available online at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm. Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated December 1, 2009. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Richmond, Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** includes Amelia, Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King and Queen, King William, Louisa, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George, and Sussex Counties and Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond cities in Virginia.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area, not seasonally adjusted (in thousands)

Area	Back data	Jun 2016	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017(1)	Jun 2016 to Jun 2017(1)	
						Net change	Percent change
United States							
Total nonfarm.....		145,182	145,948	146,789	147,388	2,206	1.5
Mining and logging		669	691	702	717	48	7.2
Construction		6,899	6,765	6,937	7,103	204	3.0
Manufacturing.....		12,434	12,336	12,376	12,480	46	0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities		27,261	27,114	27,260	27,421	160	0.6
Information		2,796	2,723	2,720	2,732	-64	-2.3
Financial activities		8,337	8,376	8,415	8,507	170	2.0
Professional and business services		20,235	20,561	20,680	20,856	621	3.1
Education and health services		22,406	23,187	23,123	22,896	490	2.2
Leisure and hospitality.....		16,288	15,754	16,153	16,607	319	2.0
Other services		5,751	5,730	5,776	5,833	82	1.4
Government.....		22,106	22,711	22,647	22,236	130	0.6
Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm		667.7	671.0	675.9	682.3	14.6	2.2
Mining, logging, & construction		37.4	37.9	38.0	39.8	2.4	6.4
Manufacturing.....		31.7	31.5	31.6	31.6	-0.1	-0.3
Trade, transportation, & utilities.....		122.2	120.7	121.6	122.8	0.6	0.5
Information		7.5	7.3	7.3	7.3	-0.2	-2.7
Financial activities		50.4	50.1	50.4	50.9	0.5	1.0
Professional & business services.....		112.2	112.3	114.4	114.5	2.3	2.0
Educational & health services		96.3	102.1	102.0	101.2	4.9	5.1
Leisure & hospitality		67.1	63.5	66.2	68.6	1.5	2.2
Other services		32.1	31.2	31.2	31.9	-0.2	-0.6
Government.....		110.8	114.4	113.2	113.7	2.9	2.6

Footnotes(1) State and regional data for the most recent month are preliminary; U.S. data are preliminary for two months.